

2022 March Legislative Update

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2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

SESSION OVERVIEW



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

2022 SESSION OVERVIEW

- ▶ The General Assembly adjourned Sine Die in the early hours of Wednesday, March 9.
- ▶ A total of **849 bills** were filed this Session with **just 265 surviving** the first half.
- ▶ Only **178** of the remaining **265 bills** were sent to the Governor for his signature



2022 SESSION OVERVIEW

- ▶ We were tracking **126 bills** which directly impacted K-12 and postsecondary education.
- ▶ **Only 46** of those bills survived to the second half with **37 bills** making it to the Governor's desk.
- ▶ Just **five bills** modify or create new legislative task for the Commission.



2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HIGHER EDUCATION BILLS



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

SEA 89: HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

This is the Commission's agenda bill and includes two items:

- ▶ Converts the Commission's student teaching stipends to traditional scholarships
- ▶ Updates Indiana Code language to account for the upcoming Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) changes



SEA 82: FAFSA

- ▶ The bill no longer requires high school seniors to file the FAFSA or affirmatively opt-out.
- ▶ The bill requires the Commission to update the model FAFSA notice provided to high school seniors with information about financial aid options.
- ▶ Further, the Commission must develop an online affirmation form which allows students to request assistance filing the FAFSA.

FAFSA FILING AS OF FEBRUARY 2

2022 FAFSA Filing Compared to 2021 FAFSA Filing				
	2022	2021	Difference	Percent Change
Overall	105,986	131,736	-25,750	-19.54
Seniors	29,528	30,711	-1,183	-3.85%
Renewals	76,458	101,025	-24,567	-24.31

FAFSA FILING AS OF FEBRUARY 28

2022 FAFSA Filing Compared to 2021 FAFSA Filing				
	2022	2021	Difference	Percent Change
Overall	131,407	153,871	-22,464	-14.6
Seniors	33,207	33,851	-644	-1.9
Renewals	98,200	120,020	-21,820	-18.18%

SEA 91: TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS

- ▶ Indiana Code requires teacher preparation programs to report how their admission practices align with the standards set by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.
- ▶ The bill allows teacher preparation programs to align admission practices with the standards set by the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP).
- ▶ The Council for Higher Education Accreditation recently approved AAQEP to accredit teacher preparation programs.

SEA 366: HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING

- ▶ The recommendations from the Higher Education Operating Funding Working Group are included in this bill.
- ▶ The goal of the bill is to increase legislative input and codify the process for creating the outcomes-based funding formula.
- ▶ The bill adds an additional presentation about outcomes-based funding to the State Budget Committee prior to the normal budget hearing process.

SEA 388: FOREIGN GIFTS AND OWNERSHIP OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

- ▶ Colleges and universities are required to report gifts from a foreign source that, alone or combined, are valued at \$250,000 or more in a calendar year.
- ▶ The bill requires institutions to report the same information to the Commissioner.
- ▶ The Commission is further required to post the information on our website

HEA 1045: 529 COLLEGE SAVING ACCOUNTS

- ▶ The bill increases the maximum tax credit for contributions to an Indiana College Choice 529 Savings Plan (529 plan) from \$1,000 to \$1,500.
- ▶ Individuals must contribute at least \$7,500 in toward a 529 plan to receive the full credit.
- ▶ The increase is estimated to reduce state revenues by \$28.1 million starting in FY24.

HEA 1094: EDUCATION MATTERS

- ▶ The bill attempts to address the issue of employer liability when providing work-based learning opportunities at the secondary level.
- ▶ The Department of Education (IDOE) is required to issue an RFP to find a company to provide liability insurance and workers compensation insurance for these experiences.
- ▶ IDOE does not have to enter into the agreement if the responses to the RFPs are not deemed “satisfactory.”

HEA 1190: FREE SPEECH AT STATE INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ The bill outlines what state educational institutions can and cannot do around free expression on their campuses.
- ▶ Institutions may not designate an area on campus as a place where protected expressive activities are prohibited.
- ▶ Further, institutions cannot deny any benefit or privilege to, or discriminate against, a religious, political, or ideological student organization for its protected expressive activity.

HEA 1190: FREE SPEECH AT STATE INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ The bill requires institutions to create and publish a free expression policy in line with the bill.
- ▶ A student or student organization may bring a state-level civil suit against an institution for a violation of free speech rights.
- ▶ The Commission is required to create a form for institutions to submit information about lawsuits arising from the new cause of action and publish an annual report.

FREE SPEECH SURVEY

- ▶ HEA 1549-2021 requires the Commission to work with the institutions to survey students on free expression on college campuses.
- ▶ The Commission and the institutions worked with Gallup to develop a survey instrument which will launch in April.
- ▶ The results of the survey will be available this summer and staff will provide the Commission with an update in the fall.

HEA 1251: VARIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS

- ▶ The bill creates a K-12 adjunct teacher permit which allows school corporations to employ content experts to fill vacancies.
- ▶ Adjunct teachers must meet numerous requirements including four years of experience in the content area and being paired with a mentor teacher.
- ▶ Adjunct teachers cannot teach special education and school corporations must report information on their adjunct teachers to IDOE.





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